

JAN 06 2009

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TO:

NAME/COMPANY	FACSIMILE NO.	
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FROM: William O. Gray, IIIOFGS FILE NO.: P/3255-88 RETURN TO: Diana L.**IF YOU DID NOT RECEIVE ALL THE PAGES, PLEASE PHONE (212) 382-0700 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

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MESSAGE: Serial No. 10/540,798

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Confirmation No.: 2066

Philippe HOFFMAN

Date: January 6, 2009

Serial No.: 10/540,798

Group Art Unit: 3672

Filed: July 28, 2005

Examiner: John J. Kreck

For: INSTALLATION FOR MANUFACTURING WOUND RIGID TUBULAR PIPES

VIA FACSIMILE 1-571-273-8300

Attention: John J. Kreck

Art Unit 3672

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TRANSMITTAL

SIR:

Transmitted herewith is a courtesy copy of the Associate Power of Attorney filed on January 6, 2009.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Attention: John J. Kreck, Art Unit 3672, Fax No. 1-571-273-8300 on January 6, 2009:

Anna Vishev

Name of applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative

Anna Vishev

Signature

January 6, 2009

Date of Signature

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Respectfully submitted,

Anna Vishev

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In re Patent Application of

Philippe Hoffmann

Serial No.: 10/540,798

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Date: January 6, 2009

Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: John J. Kreck

For: INSTALLATION FOR MANUFACTURING WOUND RIGID TUBULAR PIPES

VIA FACSIMILE 571-273-7042

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AGENDA FOR TELEPHONE INTERVIEW

Sir:

During the telephone interview scheduled for 10:00am, January 7, 2009, Applicant would like to discuss the EP 0868621 reference and possible amendments of the independent Claim 1.

Specifically, as stated on page 6, lines 8-26, of the present Application with respect to the EP reference, it teaches:

[T]he idea of winding the rigid pipe onto a storage reel mounted on a boat by plastically deforming it; the pipe then being transported to the laying boat then rewound onto a storage reel belonging to the laying boat so that it can then be reeled out to the bottom of the water.

However, it is found that transferring from one reel to the other on the high seas is rather awkward given the relative motion of the boats due to the swell. In addition, although this solution makes it possible to avoid unavailability of the laying boat, it does not, however, solve the need to have a land-based manufacturing base of the spool base type, with the aforementioned problems of space. The problems of unavailability time are then transferred to the supply boat which transports the rigid pipe out from the manufacturing base to the laying boat.

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Applicant believes that, in view of the above drawbacks, it would not have been obvious for a person skilled in the art to combine the EP reference with the Oberg and Beaujean.

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